

Zimmerman & Associates

Environmental Litigation, Mediation, Enforcement & Compliance, Counseling

EPA Science Advisory Board Hydraulic Fracturing Research Advisory Panel October 29, 2015 Meeting

Public Comments by Jeff Zimmerman on Behalf of
Damascus Citizens for Sustainability, NYH2O and Citizens for Water

First, I want to thank you. From comments many of you made yesterday afternoon and today, it is clear that you heard the stories of these regular citizens from Pennsylvania, Texas and Wyoming who have had their lives totally changed by contamination from gas wells that have been fracked. I get a sense from comment many of you have made that the information about their situation is important to this panel's review and advise to EPA on its draft assessment report. I wish they could have been here to hear the full discussion. But to borrow from the lexicon of radio communications, I will report to them that your response to their testimony is "QRZ" – message received and understood.

Second, we would urge you to include in your advice a recommendation that EPA resume investigation of these sites and include updated information from the Dimock, Pavillion and Parker and other similar cases in the report. The evidence continues to mount that methane levels in drinking water resources at these locations are in the range from 50 to 80 mg/L or more and that gas levels in the vent space (or bradenhead) of these water wells is in the range of 50% to 80% or more. This is important information to be considered and included in the scope of this assessment study.

Thank you, Jeff Zimmerman

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